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AMENDMENT TO THE DESCRIPTION

<1> At page 1, line 7. insert:

"Apparatus for carrying out a continued union of paper web are known from DE-A-100 43 989 and from US 2001/019757. These documents described apparatus for carrying out the union of two paper webs by a mutual compression of the concerned webs, in which the webs are compressed between a pressure roller and an impression roller provided with surface reliefs and/or depressions".
(see copy of the page enclosed)

<2> At page 8, delete from line 11 to line 16.
(see copy of the page enclosed)

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TITLE

"APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CARRYING OUT A CONTINUED UNION OF PAPER WEBS"

SPECIFICATION

5 The present invention refers to an apparatus and a method for continually joining paper webs.

<1> →

10 An apparatus usually employed for a continuous union of paper webs comprises, with reference to the outline of Fig. 1, two pairs of rollers and cylinders (A, B; C, D) for embossing paper webs (E, F), a roller (G) for distributing a given amount of glue onto the paper which transits in correspondence of one of the embossing rollers, and an impression roller with rubber-coated surface (H) positioned diametrically opposite to the gluing roller (G): the paper webs (E, F) result embossed as they transit between the surfaces of the corresponding embossing rollers and cylinders, that is, as they pass through the regions indicated by "X" and "Y" in Fig. 1, and become definitively glued by their passing onto the embossing roller (B) and because of the pressure exerted thereon by the rubber-coated roller (H). In Fig. 1, the arrows (VE, VF, VA) indicate the directions of advancement of web (E), web (F) and of the exiting coupled webs (AC).

25 One drawback relating to this operating technique lies in the fact that, because of the very compliance of the material that sheathes the output pressure roller (H), and of the pressure that this roller exerts on the first embossing cylinder (B), the material of the pressure roller penetrates the surface cavities of the cylinder. As a consequence, a mutual squashing of the two paper webs occurs throughout the space within which the coating material of the pressure roller fits into the cavities of the embossing cylinder (as

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In view of the union of the two paper webs (5, 6) which, as previously set forth, may be multiple webs, an operating method according to the present invention includes compressing the paper webs between a pressure roller or cylinder (2) and an impression roller or cylinder (4), the said impression cylinder being provided with surface reliefs and/or depressions, and the outer surface of said pressure cylinder being a hard surface.

According to the method of the present invention, the said cylinder (4) may also be an embossing cylinder.

<2> The construction details may vary in any equivalent way as far as the shape, dimensions, elements disposition, nature of the used materials are concerned, without nevertheless departing from the scope of the adopted solution idea and, thereby, remaining within the limits of the protection granted to the present patent.

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NEW CLAIM 9

9) Method for carrying out the union of two paper webs (5, 6) by a mutual compression of the concerned webs, characterized in that it includes compressing the said webs between a pressure roller or cylinder (2), provided with a hard outer surface and an underlying elastic surface (23), and an impression roller or cylinder (4) provided with surface reliefs and/or depressions.

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